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PART-TIME MAIL CARRIER SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR IN PRISON ON MAIL THEFT CHARGES

TUCSON – United States District Judge Raner C. Collins sentenced Yolanda Olivas Lopez, 45, of Tucson, to twelve months in prison on July 31 for her role in a conspiracy to steal mail. Lopez pleaded guilty in February to Conspiracy to Commit Theft or Receipt of Stolen Mail Matter.

At the time of the offense, Lopez was a part-time mail carrier at the San Xavier Postal Station. On September 21, 2006, a search warrant was obtained for Lopez's home and vehicles at her home. A large amount of stolen mail matter was found inside the residence, in a trash dumpster outside the residence, and in a vehicle driven by Lopez's son, which left the family residence just as officers were arriving to conduct the search. Most of the mail and mail matter recovered during the search were from addresses on Lopez's mail delivery route. Previously, on September 8, 2006, Lopez and her daughter went to a Target store in Tucson and used a debit card that had been stolen from the mail to make purchases at the store.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the United States Postal Inspection Service in Tucson. The prosecution was handled by Eric Markovich, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-01778-TUC-RCC

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